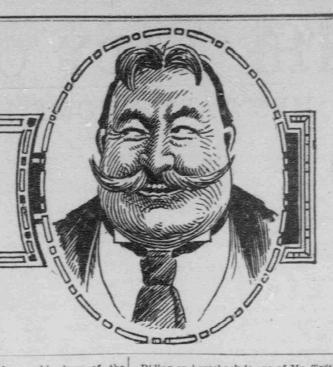


## TRI TRI Inecdotes of Taft.

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ity; no demagogue. An incident illustrates this: He was seated on a shaded

bench overlooking the St. Lawrence River one day, his mind deep in some war papers which the government had forwarded him from Washington. Looking up, he espied an old woman standing on his porch.

spoken at Murray Bay.

natives up there call him; "we want night before. We only looked and wonpeated: "No want!" Then he went back that courageous mask. to his papers. In about five minutes a

was seeking his attention. Mr. Taft, in his easy tones.

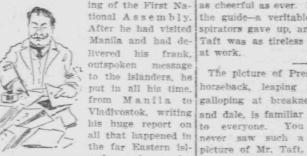
"Chickee, peegee (pigeons)), potatoes-" began the man. The Secretary laid down his documents and went over to the vendor's wagon. There he poked around among the stuff, but he did not the capacity for pain." find anything that he liked, and so he called to Mrs. Taft to come and tell the man in French that there was "nothing party of friends in Canada, and just be- "When the crowd of writing men had

Perhaps it was when Justice Harlan, who hails from Kentucky, was looking around Murray Bay for mint and some of the things that go with it that Mr. Taft told this story.

"Justice Harlan used to have a sort of know," said Mr. Taft, "He was a darkey, and his name was Lock son never used the first person singularhe always said 'we,' and he had an eye for the health of 'Marse John,' " (here Mr. Taft pointed at the justice) "and he believed in moderation. Well, one night Marse John came home in the rain. He was drenched and felt he needed some- spirit of the joke and agreed to earn his party. thing. He knew there would be a protest, but he called out: 'Hey, you, Jackson! I'm wet to the skin and cold

protest, but came back with a toddy. man like me,' said Marse John.

I kinder 'lowed as how we was taperin' found his way into camp.



being completed when he left Berlin this. He never did three weeks later that he used most of such a thing. The the thirteen days it took to cross the At- President-elect has lantic in finishing the work. Mr. Fred too much compas-

in longhand. Mrs. Taft, once seeing him laboring more than 300 pounds over this document, said:

"Will, why on earth don't you quit?" The big man looked up with a laugh:

Somebody asked him then if that rule laughed again.

Mr. Taft's favorite pastime is golf, and he is never too tired to play the game or to listen to any interesting discussion

of it At times when he is on the subject he seems a big, enthusiastic boy, unspoiled by the carking cares of the world. He may, previously, have been political question which has left its mark of werry about his eyes and mouth. but just let someone remark:

discoursing on some \_\_\_

"Saw a great game of golf the other day, Mr. Taft," and, presto, the change of expression comes streets every day. quick as a flash of lightning.

'You did?" says Taft. "Where?" And Mr. Taft is all ready to start out on a little golf story of his own, and there is no one who can tell a better story-fish

or golf-than Mr. Taft. "It's the greatest game man ever invented," Mr. Taft declares, enthusiastically. "There are games and gamesstuffy indoor games and a few outdoor games-but there never was one which could come up with this favorite of mine. It rests me more than sleep, and when I am playing I forget that I am hungry and that"-he winks-"is a great thing when a man is as fat as I am." Then he laughs one of those hearty, contagious laughs of his, sobering almost instantly afterward, as is his habit.

review. It was not mere formality with him by any means. He inspected everything down to the pack train with great care. When the review was over he and though thing down to the pack train with great climbed into a motor car, and-though it was a piping hot day-put on an overcoat. Turning up his collar, he gave the word to start. "One moment, please," said the cam-

era man.

"All right," answered Mr. Taft, "but please be quick," and turning toward the and without a vestige of the joyousness a function comes along." "No," answered "M'sieu Taft," as the that we had seen in his countenance the

shadow fell across his table, and this Taft had reached the house of a friend. existed. time a one-eyed man with farm truck where he was a guest, a bulletin was is-"Well, what have you got?" queried was then resting easily, it would be neces- at the time when Mr. Taft was there to gagements. He was suffering from pto- lent little republic, maine poisoning, a bit of fish having done "Mr. Taft," stated a newspaper disthe mischief, and, as the Secretary said, patch of the day, "sat in a small room

President Taft was ence fishing with a can newspapers.

lived in the woods

The President was led into the upper tainly a very big reaches of the trout stream and after | man." Said one makall through; bring me something to warm a while the guide announced "We are ing a gesture that

lost." In the all-day effort to recover implied a large cir-"Jackson went off wagging his head in their bearings the guide and Mr. Taft cle as he spoke, tramped through tangled underbrush, That's a powerful weak drink for a climbed over fallen trees, waded through swered the other. marshes; but Mr. Taft would not get "We have certainly "It hain't more'n moderately strong, tired. The guide held out doggedly until had a considerable Jackson admitted. 'Yo' see, Marse John, finally night came on. Then he suddenly sphere of American The conspiring friends were waiting to

receive Mr. Taft, prepared to triumph When Mr. Taft traveled from Seattle over his discomfiture and exhaustion. to the Philippines his time was much oc- But he swung into camp calling for a cupied in preparing the speech he would square meal in a hurry. He admitted deliver at the open- that he was a little bit tired, but he was ing of the First Na- as cheerful as ever. Behind him tottered the guide-a veritable wreck. The conspirators gave up, and allowed that Mr. Taft was as tireless at play as he was

> The picture of President Roosevelt on sure that his hard-worked mule had been horseback, leaping six-rail fences, or fed. from Manila to galloping at breakneck speed over hill

his huge report on to everyone. You all that happened in never saw such a the far Eastern isl- picture of Mr. Taft, ands, and, so far though, and there is \_ was this report from just one reason for Carpenter, his secretary, had been left sion for the horse to behind in Germany for a two weeks' va- expect him to leap cation. Mr. Taft wrote out the report six-rail fences and jump rivers with

up. Mr. Taft always manages to sit his horse if he happens to become fractious, for he has learned be forgotten by those so vitally interested appeared before "Well," he answered, "it's a good policy the art of riding from men who are in the construction Well," he answered, "it's a good poncy the art of haing from men of the Panama to make your reports extra long, so folks among the world's best riders—the Unitwon't read them and find out your mis- ed States army's cavalry. When Secretary of War, Mr. Taft's orderly, who declares he does not know exactly how usually accompanied him on his rides, he happened to go. applied to the President's message, and was a horseman surpassed by none. He he happened to go he merely shrugged his shoulders and could ride any horse that ever champed ing with the feeling a bit; he could ride standing up, lying that something was

> be ridden. horse, although he never attempted any ing chat with his of them himself. He has always been wife, and prepared to perfectly satisfied to take his morning go down town. On and evening gallop on the flat. To horse- the way to his office he got into a street back riding Mr. Taft attributes a reduction in his weight, and this exercise and Just what the question was concerning

dle as a recreation. Taft loves horses and probably knows "Fil prove it. Fil start this very day." who is credited with owning the finest Isthmus of Panama horses in Washington, where fine steeds Word was telegraphed to the isthmus for every purpose are to be seen in the that he was on his way, and great were



not tolerate a tattler.

mundane effort.

comera, he tried to smile. It was the him. I guess he likes fixing up about as and looking over the parade ground, nity of the Spanish officials. But Taft, "You spikka Inglees?" she asked. Lit- ghastliest attempt to appear at ease that much as I do. I'm most despondent, too. said: tle but the French Canadian patois is I ever saw; a weird, heart-rending effort, with all this clothes changing every time

natives up there call him; "we want nothing to-day." She did not understand. dered, for none of us knew of the mortal Taft was his enforced absence from this and was standing on the rear platform Bulacan to introduce civil government. He did get them out with him, however, shaking his head vigorously, he reShaking his head vigorously, h Some thirty minutes later, when Mr. the strongest bond of sympathy and love

> sued stating that though the Secretary by an incident that happened at Havana sary to cancel all of his immediate en- straighten out the affairs of the turbu-

"the larger the corporation, the greater the capacity for pain."

While Mr. Taft was governor general the was introduced to the grande he was introduced to th most of them correspondents for Ameri-

cause he could outdo the most vigorous arranged themselves in a rough semiof them in the circle in front of his desk, Mr. Taft woods or along the beckoned to the representative of a Bosstream they decided ton daily, on the outer edge of the crowd. they would get something up on him. to come around and sit beside him. I am anxious that this young man should They bribed the hear everything, he said, in explanation French Canadian of his partiality. 'He writes for the only guide to take Mr. paper that my mother reads, and I like Taft into the woods her to know what I'm doing down here." and lose him. The There was something fine in the uncon guide was as tough sciousness and simplicity of the man's as a pine knot. He speech and attitude of mind."

> and was as tireless. Two Chinamen in Shanghai were dis- ordered to sail from his easy berth in as an Indian. He cussing the President-elect's visit to that the United States for duty in Luzon. Of entered into the place after the departure of the Taft

> > **这一**

"Mr. Taft is cer-"He is that." aninfluence in our midst recently" And yet they say the Chinaman has no sense of humor.

Mr. Taft. in the Philippines, preferred to ride a mule, because, he explained, a horse usually saw him first and mutinied. but the mule would stand it a couple of be ridden. He once kept a formal and gorgeous dinner waiting until he made

The story, much to the credit of his humayor whose observation of mules had his court of violating the postal laws. been limited to the smaller breeds. He Judge Taft was conasked Mr. Taft how big his mule was. vinced that the of-"Oh," indicating the lowest button on fense was due more his vest, "about so high. Weighed about to ignorance than to

150 pounds, I should judge." The mayor had the ray of light which he suspended senmissed Judge Harlan. "Mr Taft," he remarked solemnly, "I me in six months,"

believe you're a nature-faker." So he was, too, for the mules he rode fendant, in the Philippines were big and mighty beasts.

Mr. Taft's first visit to Panama, in the young fellow who year 1905, is an event which will never had been convicted

ing with the feeling his tould ride any norse that something was a bit; he could ride standing up, lying down, or any way in which a horse can be ridden.

Mr. Taft was always delighted to watch his breakfast, and his customary morn-833

car discussion concerning the canal. enlist until I'd seen you." would Just what the question was concerning "Well." said Judge Taft. "you show pear. the fresh air he gets constitute the prin- it Mr. Taft cannot exactly remember; cipal reason for his adoption of the sad- anyhow, he has a clear recollection of saying:

enough about them to suit his own There was a hand-shake, and Mr. Taft Although Mr. Taft is tireless, and alends, but it is not likely that he will ever took the return car home, packed up his though fishing is one of his favorite thread and repaired damages. Mr. Taft have the distinction enjoyed by Mr. Root, things, and started that night for the pastimes, he is not regarded as an expert donned those essential articles of attire

the preparations made for his reception It was not often that Judge Taft showed the pomp and ceremony that would have When he arrived he was greeted with all then the fun begins. When the other anger, but when he did there was nothing been extended to the President himself. man gets through with his story, then half-hearted about it. A man who had Flags were flying, and children were heard some idle talk singing. The air was sweet with the about Taft came to breath of flowers, and signs of jubilation tell the judge of it. were visible on every hand. When the People were saying. Secretary of War landed a medley of he asserted, that bands started to play. School children, Taft would not do robed in white, rushed forward to scatter full justice to one flowers in his path. Crowds shouted, side in a pending and there was a wealth of sound and case. "You get out color everywhere. After his reception Taft is much like Cleveland: He does of a dozen European courts. of here or I'll throw had been properly recognized, Mr. Taft not like to dictate his letters to a stehis brother. "He smiled that smile of his, an attendant, and then told his secretary
you out," he shoutlost no time in entering into the work of nographer and always does as much as made his frank, heart-seizing apology,
to invite the five students to sit beside which goes to make a first-class family ed. As a matter of investigation. He started in with a vim fact, the case was which had a great deal to do with stimnot before Taft's ulating the interest of all those concerning the hated a cd, and went through the thing with gest anything but the big man behind it.

The case was which had a great deal to do with stimulating the interest of all those concerning the following the hated a cd, and went through the thing with gest anything but the big man behind it.

The big without the pointed to the chairs and the convinced them. So the five, embarrassed world trips without the hampering personality of a maid—which, anyhow, her meddler. He would thorough enjoyment and the push that His autograph is in enormous demand. They could start in talking about the fu- "I thought you'd be able to hear better common sense told her Mr. Taft couldn't marks all of his movements

Mr. Taft. He can see himself as others- tographer with Mr. Taft around the heard to say at table, "you haven't ob- Mr. Taft was inspecting a cavalry post. tion of the Philippines nothing has ever world, found time to visit the Czar of chief pastimes. On account of his size

pinos needed to re-

concile them to

American rule. His

endeared him to the

The simple-hearted

children of the

Orient had been

chilled by the dig-

"Howdy" in the most approved American

only to the fact that

One day, after

making the rounds

of the links at Chevy

Chase, Mr. Taft at

with one of the cus-

toms of the place

and stepped on the

than 275 pounds.

scales are only boys' size.'

tempted to comply

morning.

ington. A newspa- twice,"

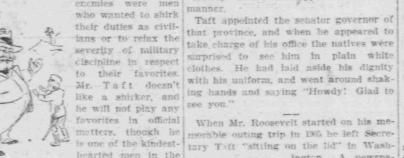
natives.

big human qualities, his strength, and his corpulency,

Charlie gazed into space, his counten-badly rattled. The ance depicting that trouble proved conprofound melan- tagious, for the officholy that comes to cer of the day, who the juvenile consci- rode by Mr. Taft, \ ousness upon the realization of the utter futility of all and that and giving mundane effort. hysterical and con-Observing this, Mr. tradictory orders. Taft said, "Oh, we won't be too hard on derstood at once,

Not many days later this same major wherever he went. One of the shadows upon the life of Mr. was journeying northward with Mr. Taft When Taft went into the province of sure ment than fer the Secretary's feelings, uniformed like a bandmaster, and he had been gained through its own eyes. leaned forward and whispered very audi- medals pinned all over his chest. He ex-"South Dakota, Mr. Secretary- pected to see the great American gover- Capt. Seth Bullock, plainsman and other era of the human race. keta the last four hours."

enemies were men



to their favorites. clothes. He had laid aside his dignity Mr. Taft doesn't with his uniform, and went around shaklike a shirker, and ing hands and saying "Howdy! Glad to he will not play any see you." favorites in official When Mr. Roosevelt started on his mematters, though he morable outing trip in 1905 he left Secres one of the kindest- tary Toft "sitting on the lid" in Washhearted men in the world. In the military af-

fairs of the islands a certain officer was course, the officer was not anxious to go, and immediately set to work in Washington all the influence he could bring to bear to relieve him of the unpleasant sk set before him. wire-pulling had been exhausted he wa finally referred to Mr. Taft. So, one of the officer's friends called upon the governor general and advanced several good excuses, finally playing his trump card, as follows:

a white man," he declared. "It is hot "When an ambassador of a foreign succulent spread stowed away in her hold, a white man, he declared. It is not and it is unhealthy. The colonel cannot power, having in mind the making of a with the gale whipping the sea into a invade the woods. stand it here. Why, you know he is fat, point for the mystification of other for- mountainous lather between. He weighs more than 250 pounds. It eign powers, desires to take the United Mrs. Squires was in deep despair. She bring him over here."

"Yes." said Taft, thoughtfully, "Further than that, he would be in speaking to Secretary Taft he is speakdanger of his life here-a fat man like ing to the President."

Taft took a thoughtful survey of his days before showing he preferred not to own huge frame, and, turning to the applicant, with a quizzical smile, asked:

"Did Taft die?" The colonel went to the Philpipines.

he cannot spare the time. When at his Toward the end of his career as a Fed- summer home at maneness, was known to a Minnesota eral judge, a young man was convicted in Murray Bay, Quebec, he plays golf for three hours every

> criminal intent, and tence, "Come back to he said to the de-The Philippine war was on when the six months expired. The

Judge Taft with the laconic introduction, T've come.

"I see you have," said his honor, "but what can I do for you?"

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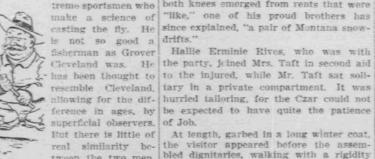
Judge Taft had nearly forgotten the circumstance, but it was recalled to his recollection by attaches of the court. Then he put the young man through an The Czar, with all his gorgeous staff and The Czar, with all his gorgeous staff and the court. in the probationary period, and received satisfactory answers. "And what are you doing now?" he

asked. "I am trying to get into the army," was

the answer. "Will they take you" "I think so, but I told them I couldn't

yourself to me with Uncle Sam's uniform on and you needn't come after that. his railway car, had split at the knee the The boy enlisted and his sentence was only pair of dress trousers his baggage remitted. supplied. Mrs. Taft, skilled housewife

fisherman by ex- and descended once more. That time treme sportsmen who both knees emerged from rents that were make a science of "like," one of his proud brothers has easting the fly. He since explained, "a pair of Montana snowis not so good a drifts." fisherman as Grover Hallie Erminie Rives, who was with Cleveland was. He the party, joined Mrs. Taft in second aid



But there is little of At length, garbed in a long winter coat, real similarity bethe visitor appeared before the assembled dignitaries, walking with a rigidity day, while hearing a case in the Federal "You did," laughed Aunt Delia. In this respect Mr.

and he is good natured about giving it. ture of China."

Meanwhile, Mr. Taft, descending from

even the cartonist—see him, and laughs as heartly as anyone at a joke on
himself. No pompostty: no depragogue.

Check the cartonist—see him, and displayed that there is a conspicuous tract of ground in the paths at Fort Snelling, Minn. Says Dunn:

Mr. Taft was very thorough with his

Check pastimes. On account of his size

A company rode by in somewhat broken been so potent as the personality of Mr.

Russia, though he had to disappoint the Kaiser, the one European monarch who his friends always have made commiserating jokes in regard to say at table, you make the pastimes. On account of his size

A company rode by in somewhat broken been so potent as the personality of Mr.

Taft, the former governor - general.

Taft was just the

Taft was just the

Taft was just the

Taft was just the

Taft was pushed a cavally post. In on of the rhimppines nothing has ever world, found time to visit the Czar of Russia, though he had to disappoint the Kaiser, the one European monarch who his friends always have made commiserating jokes in regard to the beasts which

Taft was just the

Taft was just the

Taft was pushed to visit the Czar of Russia, though he had to disappoint the Kaiser, the one European monarch who his friends always have made commiserating jokes in regard to the beasts which

Taft was just the

Taft was just the Czar of Minn in the proposition of Mr.

Taft was most eager to meet him, Old World to the beasts which

Taft was just the

Taft was just the Czar of Minn in the proposition in the path in the path in the proposition in the path i the apparent neglect, but it didn't. Germany's Emperor and Germany's people remain quite as friendly now as though the famous adjuster of America's trou-

bles and carried his genial personality to

Perhaps the most notable achievement of this undiplomatic diplomat was the one he carried through so brilliantly in the visit of inspection of the Philippines by a party of seventy Congressmen and their wives under his personal ciceronage.

with his loud, hearty laughter, his cor- declaring with familiar emphasis. "Nope! "Never mind, major, that's only human dial handshake, his beaming face, trav- Not for your Uncle Joseph. And let me nature. We won't let trifles bother us." eled about the islands creating good will tell you fellows that if Bill Taft gets you is the mule?" out on the Pacific with him you're goners,

mother died. Between mother and son speech to a small but enthusiastic crowd. inent chizen of the place, who proved to erum at perfect peace and in a state of of his room at Yale in the '70's, and it "In this beautiful State of Iowa," Mr. be a former captain of volunteers and a positively grateful happiness until it re-Taft was saying, when the major, hav- former presidente, Senator Jose Serapio, turned, filled with information which, like ing more regard for precision of state- The senator was oozing dignity. He was his own on the subject of the islands, had the quiet and studious air. But it awak-

South Dakota. We've been in South Da- nor coming with resplendent ceremonies friend of President Roosevelt, paid in "O-o-o-o-oh, W-I-II-e-e-e-e-e" and in gorgeous array. But Taft came homely phrase one of the highest tributes From all the other windows round along in a suit of light linen, and when

tried. Taft that you like?" mained. he was asked.

per man writing at "Mr. Taft sits on the lid with the all can Minister at Panama, being desirous will call up with him what remains of the lid with the all can Minister at Panama, being desirous of one who is used to of giving a dinner which should rival all green. it, attending to mat- the 'possom and other feasts that have The native Filipinos fairly worship Mr. ters of import. As tempted the palate of the President-elect, Taft. They have a way of calling him acting President, ordered from New York a magnificent "Santo," and they think in order to be a acting President, and the guardianship of great man in Amera high-priced chef, was brought down ica one must have a of War, he is keep. on the steamer Colon. ing up an appear. All the diplomats in Panama had been the French guides

ance in line with asked to the affair, but when the day of Canada, who past performances, arrived a terrific "norther" was blowing know how to fish He has been attend- and the twelve ships that reached the ing to more subjects of great interest isthmus anchored outside the harbor, and catch them, do "You know this is an awful climate for than fell to the lot of most Americans. There, in full sight, was the Colon, the

would be an absolute punishment to States into his confidence, he calls not called up Hiram Slifer, general manager at the State Department, but at the War of the Panama Railroad, and said ex-Department, knowing that when he is citedly:

get that dinner for to-night." "Heaven, madam," replied Mr. Slifer, Occasionally when in Washington Mr. is the only place whence help can come. Taft plays golf at the Chevy Chase Club. I cannot send out a tug even for pas-

That he does not do so oftener is due sengers and mail, and the dinner must wait." The dinner did wait two days. Meanwhile, Mr. and Mrs. Taft ate native home fare and enjoyed the joke.

> In his practical work of establishing civil government in the Philippines, Mr. Taft was especially interested in the conditions of life of the native woman.

"Her legal rights ire, perhaps, greater in the islands than are those of the American woma"." he once said in an daintily aickel-plated scales to test his interview. weight. Two 109-pound weights and a Mr. Taft then dis-

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fifty were placed on the scales, but of cussed the tasks of course the beam remained hard aloft, the women, and exand the attendant was obliged to explain pressed his regret that the scales would not weigh more that they did not use more modern ap-"Why don't you have scales built to pliances in their

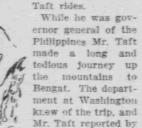
weigh men?" exclaimed Mr. Taft. "These labor. It was most interesting to watch the simple, sympathetic air with this

Then he put the young man through an The Czar, with all his gorgeous staff and Mr. Taft, "their methods are unnecess functionaries around him, was awaiting sarily laborious, though the arrival of the distinguished Ameri- watch. They go down to the river bankscan secretary. He went on waiting-went oh, just crowds of them, and you can't on for half an hour. The only occasion imagine what a sight it is-and beat the that paralleled it in cosmic interruption clothes with sticks. Well, the clothes was when Joshua did the same thing to hard on their longevity"—with a rueful the sun. It did not augur well for har- smile-"and besides, it's a hard way of monious relations when the visitor, who working, especially when you consider would keep the Czar waiting should ap- that they could import things that would make life much easier.

> Dignified on the bench, Mr. Taft's se date manner was tempered by a sugges-

was a source of great pride to him. One Millbury, didn't I, Aunt Della?" whom he knew, sitting in rear seats. member-had the measles here the first "I know just what Bill did," asserts "Bring five chairs up here," he said to time you came on a visit." up here," was Taft's explanation.

There is absolutely no false pride about Robert Lee Dunn, who traveled as pho- "Charlie," Mrs. Taft was once over- At one place on tour as War Secretary In the peaceful and benevolent assimila- When Mr. Taft, on his tour of the Riding on horseback is one of Mr. Taft's



cable direct to Sec-

retary of State Root:

"Arrived safe and "Nope!" they quote Speaker Cannon as sound after riding 100 miles muleback." Secretary Root replied like this: "Congratulations on your health. How

"O-o-oh, Williel"

It was the voice of William H. Taft's ened such a multitude of echoes as nature has provided in no other spot and at no

that could be paid to about a chorus of 400 voices took up the any human being, yell with a gorgeousness of variety alwhen he was asked most deafening and wholly humiliating. his opinion of Mr. That was the last time any of William

Taft, Capt. Seth has H. Taft's family ventured to call him the plainsman's ret- "Willie" within a radius of ten miles of icence of speech. He Yale. Undergraduate opinion had showed could not gush if he itself too overwhelming in disapproval. His name became "Bill"-just plain "Bill" "What is it about -and to Yale ever since "Bill" he has re-

The men who most frequently called He hemmed and Taft Bill during the Yale days were the hawed before he members of his class-78. On the day of answered. "He's his inauguration as President of the Unitsimply all right. He's ed States they are going to have a class a man you don't have to be introduced to meeting at Washington, where, after more than thirty years, the whooping this time had to say: During Mr. Taft's last visit to the school-fellows of those vocifereous days

gigantic stature. But not worship Taft as they do some of the trout experts who One day when he

had been out for two hours with his guide whipping a Cana-"Heaven knows, Mr. Slifer, I have to Taft returned with a fine basket of fish.

His friends were congratulating him on his skill. The guide said nothing. Taft smiled genially when they asked how many he had caught. He waved his hand at the guide and said: "The squadron under my command

caught twelve fish.'

The man who after being duly impressed with the size of Mr. Taft forms the opinion that he is not athletic will find himself sadly mistaken. Once there was a gentleman of this sort, who thought it would be a huge joke to inveigle the genial Taft into a game of golf under the broiling sun of the Philippine Islands. When, after Mr. Taft had set the pace in following the ball over a nine-mile course, and was then trailed by his friend for a five-mile walk to a plantation house on the mountain side to get refreshment in a cup of tea. the joker was a sadder, but a wiser man. He found Mr. Taft as strong and fresh and smiling as a sea-shore breeze, while he himself-well, the joke was on him with a vengeance, for he was forced to lay abed the next day.

Those familiar with the Taft home are agreed that Mr. Taft is "house broke"



a single eve and the things he could tell you about bringing up a baby would make up a successful series of Sunday newspaper features. "Bill" Taft was just brought up that way. Mr. Taft left Washington to spend a quiet day with the old folks at Millbury,

One of those asso- nections were out of the question. He wanted to get home to mother, and this ciated inti mately with him in the days when he wore the judicial ermine has wanted to get home to mother, and this did not suit him, so he boarded a trolley car that ran Millburyward. From the end of this line he walked in on his mother and reletives extend to the suit has a suit before the suit of the s said: "He was Judge mother and relatives about 9:30 in the Taft in the court- evening, several hours before he was exhouse, but Bill Taft pected. "Trust Bill Taft to get home." away from there." was the comment of a friend who had

His interest in young known Taft as a boy. men, particularly in The following day an enterprising young lawyers, was newspaper reporter heard the following shown frequently. bit of conversation between Mr. Taft and

The law school of Aunt Delia: "I came mighty near being born in

"You did the nearest thing to it, I re-

well afford.





which he was dean

